



Courtesy of NIMSU/ photos by Editha

## One World kick-off!

The final countdown is on to the first One World Youth Conference. The conferences – there are six in total – allow youth to learn more about the major global summits of the 1990s, while exploring ways to make those pledges reality in Mongolia. From November 20 to 23, the focus will be on children, with workshops on education, child labour, nutrition and health, AIDS/HIV/STDs/Sustainability Education, children under difficult circumstances and the environment. Seven delegates have been selected from each of the 21 aimags (provinces), meeting over 147 youth will attend each of the conferences. They have been chosen for their representation of Mongolia's cultural, social, regional and economic diversity.

The conferences join a packed event calendar in the Mongolian Government's Year of Youth. Like the Year of Youth, there is also a One World theme song, with words by Bargaal of the Secret Association and melody by Purevdorj. Some of Mongolia's top pop musicians joined together to sing the song.

Already large quantities of materials on the global summits and the UN have been translated, or are being translated.

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## News in a flash

The UNAIDS programme in Mongolia has had a busy autumn, according to its National Project Coordinator, Ms. Enkhjargal. The UNAIDS team has been reaping the benefits of the combined UN agencies Information, Education and Communication (IEC) strategy. Activities have been in full swing for the past few months, with health workers attending terminology workshops (often confusion over terminology can lead to confusion in IEC activities), which is part of the national IEC strategy. There have also been awareness raising seminars with senior police officials and with special squads who are responsible for commercial sex workers. And things look to be getting only busier, with World Aids Day on December 1 and a review of the programme and its Memorandum of Understanding to be conducted by Dr. Steven Kraus at the end of November.

**Mongol Radio is broadcasting twice on Mondays (10:30 am/7:30 pm) programming on safe sex and HIV/AIDS.**

Darlings of development workers in Africa, wind-up, battery-free radios are now available in Mongolia. A joint British/Mongolian company is selling the radios in the 1,000 Things market and in the popular Nomin electronics stores in Ulaanbaatar, Darkhan and Erdenet. The radio's chief advantage is that it doesn't need batteries and can be recharged by either a quick turn of the crank or through solar energy. The company is also selling a bright yellow torch that also acts as a small hand-held electricity generator. The downside is its retail price: US \$81 for the radio, the lantern is US \$75. Bill Murray admits it is a hard sell job to convince low-income Mongolians they will reap the savings over the long run by not having to buy batteries. Another problem is the cashless economy. "I could get a couple of sheep for these, but I'm not sure what I'd do with all those sheep," he told the UB Post. "But it is a problem, not just for me but for anybody trying to distribute stuff – both the difficulty of making contact and the difficulty of the exchange, because most people haven't got the cash." Keep in mind, the radios are a great gift for friends living in the countryside.

Tumen river meeting scheduled for October 15 in Ulaanbaatar was cancelled. At this point it is difficult to say when the meeting will be re-scheduled, but maybe in the first half of the new year. The Tumen River project is an ambitious UNDP-supported scheme to bring trade and economic opportunity to the countries situated near, or connected to, the Tumen River basin. The project is attempting to coordinate the government's of Russia, China, North Korea and Mongolia. It is hoped people in these areas, by working together, will be able to enjoy increased economic prosperity with access to a salt-water port in North Korea.

## All human rights for all

# FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS 1948 - 1998

## Mongolia joins the worldwide celebration

*By Uyanga, Information Officer, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights*

Mongolia has made great strides in the area of human rights. But like countries around the world, December 10 will be a day to remind ourselves what constitutes human rights and to assess what has been achieved. Fifty years ago the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1948.

Crafted in the aftermath of the barbarities of the Second World War, the Declaration defines the fundamental rights and freedoms of all human beings. Even though it is not a binding treaty, the document is now widely regarded as a quasi-obligatory set of standards, and a great many states have accepted legally binding obligations through formal conventions that include the concepts of UDHR. Moreover, many limited-purpose conventions are now in effect to afford protection against a considerable variety of human rights issues, such as those prohibiting forced labour and racial discrimination, providing equal rights for women and the like.

Today, a number of human rights activists, individuals and organisations are struggling to stop ongoing violation or deprivation of basic rights and freedoms, everything from the torture, rape and corrupt judicial systems to bonded labour, hunger and lack of access to health services, housing, sanitation, water, etc. The global struggle against atrocities, and commitment to the universal human rights walkways and murals, awards honouring national human rights heroes and defenders, public read-

ings and fund raising. Mongolians of different age range, backgrounds and regions are joining the world wide celebration of the jubilee by drawing pictures, writing essays, and attending conferences. The Mongolian government and the United Nations country team are to sign a Memorandum of Understanding on Human Rights, a document which reaffirms and strengthens the Government of Mongolia's commitment to promotion and protection of human rights.

## Human Rights calendar:

1. One World Conference on Human Rights, December 7 to 10
2. Children's Drawing Exhibition on human rights, song contest on human rights themes and "Implementation of Human Rights in my country" essay among law students, with round-table discussion to be broadcast on TV, December 10
3. Broadcasting of a cartoon on UDHR on Mongol TV, December 11 and 12.
4. Dissemination of the UDHR text in "Ardyn Erkh", and "Onoodor"
5. Publishing of the UDHR simplified version for children
6. Training on, and dissemination of UDHR booklets to 109 UB schools
7. Dissemination of the UDHR booklets to all schools in the country
8. Radio broadcasts on employment discrimination
9. Amnesty International Big Book signing

For more information please call Ms. Uyanga at UNCHR at 321676. She can also be reached by email at [unchrmon@magicnet.mn](mailto:unchrmon@magicnet.mn).

## NGOs GET KUDOS FOR RAISING ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

Mongolia's Environmental Public Awareness Programme (EPAP), funded by UNDP with Dutch cost-sharing, singled out 22 environmental NGOs for awards during an October 16 event. The winners were recognised for their effective work on protecting Mongolia's increasingly threatened environment. The programme, which has been running for two years, is expected to be extended another two years with support from the Dutch government through UNDP. The ceremony took place



in the biggest nomadic tent in the country, and was the culmination of 91 successfully implemented small projects. The event was also the launch of the Green Book, a collaboration of EPAP, the UNDP Mongolia Communications Office, the European Union's TACIS project and the Ministry of Nature and Environment. The Green Book is a handbook for NGOs, outlining serious environmental problems and giving contact numbers and tips on how to solve these problems.



## UNDP Report makes major contribution to the understanding of poverty

In 1995 at the World Summit for Social Development, Governments declared their determination to eradicate poverty. This report looks at the progress that has been made since then and, in particular, at UNDP's involvement in poverty eradication strategies, programmes and projects.

The report notes that around one third of people in developing countries continues to live in "income poverty" - earning less than 1\$ per day. But it emphasises the importance of looking beyond income to address human poverty - the lack of essential human capabilities such as being literate, healthy and adequately nourished. It points out, for example, that in developing countries, about 30 per cent of all children under five are malnourished, and 38 per cent of all adult women are illiterate.

What is the international community doing to address both income and human poverty? The report includes the results of global survey to gauge the extent to which governments have been honouring the commitment they made at the Social Summit - estimate poverty, set targets to eradicate it and implement plans to do so.

Out of 130 countries covered, the survey

finds that 43 now have national poverty plans in place while 35 more address poverty explicitly within their national planning framework. But only 38 countries so far have set targets for eradication of extreme poverty.

The report welcomes the progress made to date, but stresses that it falls far short of what is needed. Not only do many more countries need to formulate plans to fight poverty - setting time-bound goals and targets - but they also need to translate plans into actions. Many countries have in the past made grand proclamations without delivering their promises. The same is true of the international community.

The attack on poverty in the years to come needs to be backed with real resources. Governments that are determined to eradicate poverty will need to consider both the magnitude and composition of public spending and how they can best use their resources to create the environment - political, economic and social - that can enable people to escape from poverty.

For the poorest countries, still burdened with demands to pay off debts, that will be

*Continued on page 4*

## Up Close and Personal

Ms. Erdenechimeg is a national United Nations Volunteer with the Poverty Alleviation Programme, funded jointly by the World Bank, UNDP and Sweden. There are now 42 national UNVs (NUNVs) working throughout Mongolia. There are currently four Mongolians serving as international UNVs around the world in Kyrgyzstan, Bhutan and Tajikistan. Any Mongolians interested in serving with UNV must contact the Ulaanbaatar UNV office. To serve outside of Mongolia, a second language is a must.



**When did you join PAPO and why did you want to be a national UNV?**

- I started my work in January 1997. At that time the project was just starting. I am working here as I think this is a new experience for Mongolia. First, I didn't have a clear vision of the output of these activities but now I have learned it.

**What are these activities, could you describe them?**

- Yes, initially the NUNVs were working only in three aimags and two regions, but currently they work in all aimags. All types of specialists are involved in these activities. I am specialising in monitoring and evaluation research work of the PAPO project. The monitoring of the project activities was introduced just starting from last year and now we are distributing all the manuals, indicators and brochures connected with monitoring and evaluation and conducting training on this subject. So, this will improve the efficiency of our work.

**Do you have leisure time and how do you spend it?**

- Unfortunately, there is not so much leisure time left after my work. I like sewing and reading scientific magazines, as I am an electronics engineer. But now I don't have time for these things.

**Do you have a family?**

- Yes, I live with my husband and a child.

**What is the principle you follow in your life?**

- Do the proper work, so that you would not regret afterwards about the results of your work.

**Do you think that your work is useful and are there any results in real poverty alleviation?**

- Of course, I would even say that since the monitoring and evaluating system has been introduced the effectiveness of the project has increased considerably. People can evaluate the activities conducted on the project level and see what has been done and how and it can be improved. We always go to the countryside and can observe the changes which have occurred ourselves.

**Are you satisfied with your work and what are your plans for the future?**

- I am very satisfied as I consider poverty alleviation as an important issue in today's Mongolia, and this work is for the benefit of all people living here. I don't have particular plans for the future, but I would like to become later on an international UNV and share my experiences with other people.

**Do you have a dream?**

- I would wish the number of poor and needy would be reduced.

## News in a flash

Improving health services across Mongolia is an important goal for the UNDP-supported National Poverty Alleviation Programme (NPAP). Ambulance services for rural communities have been seriously weakened in the past eight years of transition. Targeting in-need communities has meant that 86 sums or medium-sized towns now have new ambulances. The ambulances were funded by the International Development Association. A further 21 sums will receive ambulances before the end of the year. Ambulances in these communities take the form of the hardy Russian jeep, which makes up for what it lacks in comfort with its simple, easy-to-repair design. Other projects under the NPAP have trained 822 medical volunteers, rehabilitated 108 maternity hospitals and redecorated 24 sum hospitals. At the small town or bag level, 35 doctors were given jeeps.

For many children in Mongolia, school means attending boarding schools at regional centres. With such a low population spread out over a vast territory - and many families working as nomadic herders - provision of educational services is a difficult task. Like other social services, education has fared poorly during the transition period, with governments unable to meet costs. The UNDP- and World Bank-supported Poverty Alleviation Programme Office has supported the upgrading of 69 boarding schools, with repairs to lighting and heating, installing solar power panels and establishing small, community schools. Over Tg 174.8 million was spent and 3,415 school dropouts were able to return to school.

Cooperation South is a new UNDP periodical that offers thoughtful debate and analysis on the major development issues facing Asian countries in the Southern hemisphere. While Mongolia is a North East Asian country, many of the issues discussed in Cooperation South also affect Mongolia. With stories like "Whose 'Model' Failed? Implications of the Asian Economic Crisis" and "Cultural Globalisations: Living on a Frontierless Land" by well-known writer Nadine Gordimer. The periodical's second issue is out and available in English at the UN Information Shop. It joins UNDP's colourful magazine about development, Choices. In English, Choices is produced by some of the world's top journalists and photojournalists and explores people's stories behind the development jargon.



## New CD-ROM details projects of UNFPA, UNESCO and UNDP

By L.Ariunaa, Information Manager, Information and Communication Technology for Sustainable Human Development Project

The first CD-ROM with information on the activities of the projects of UNFPA, UNESCO and UNDP is out. The CD-ROM has been compiled with the assistance of the project staff of UNFPA, UNESCO and UNDP, and by Ms. A. Batchimeg of "ICT for SHD" project. Using Frontpage software, the information on CD-ROM has been defined as linked information, which makes it easier to find and browse.

There are websites of the Ministries and Government organizations connected to the Government Information Network. The CD-ROM has been pilot tested in Huvsgul and received very positive replies from the citizens. The people were ready to spend hours browsing through the information it contained. The initial purpose of the CD-ROM is to supply Citizens Information Service Centers with information, created with the assistance of the Decentralization and Democracy Support and the Information and Communications Technology for Sustainable Human Development projects of UNDP.



If you have any information you would like to share with citizens, please contact [ariunaa@pmis.gov.mn](mailto:ariunaa@pmis.gov.mn) or [batchimeg@pmis.gov.mn](mailto:batchimeg@pmis.gov.mn) or phone: 323403. We are in the process of compiling the second CD and are looking for suggestions.

There are five existing CISCs in Mongolia – Ulaanbaatar city Mayor's office, Tuv aimag, Kharkhorin and Arvaikheer.

Within the framework of activities of "ICT for SHD" project, the project staff had conducted a number of training courses for staff of Governor's office and citizens of Uvurkhangai, Dornogovi and Huvsgul aimags. Besides that, in August, the project began publishing the "ICT" newsletter, which contains information about the activities of the project, information on the Government information network status and their connectivity to the Government Information Network.

In November, "Decentralization and Democracy support" and "ICT for SHD" projects are planning to connect the governors offices of Dundgovi, Huvsgul and Khovd aimags and establish Citizens Information Service Centers at these aimags as well. The main objective of the CISC is to establish a new way to facilitate the communication between governors' offices and the citizens.

## Understanding poverty

*Continued from page 3*

difficult. Sub-Saharan Africa pays over 14 per cent of export earnings in debt service, and South-Asia pays 22 per cent. Thus the bilateral and multilateral creditors have a major responsibility to cancel or dramatically cut the debts they are owed.

their goals. The international community also has a vital contribution to make through aid. The report points out that this has now shrunk to just 0.22 per cent of aggregate industrial country GDP – a far cry from the UN target of 0.7 per cent.

Even with donor assistance, however, the report argues that the eradication of poverty cannot rely on the efforts of central governments alone. They can provide a leadership but this must be combined with the active participation of a coalition of regional and local governments involving civil society organisations and the private sector.

But the driving force of such coalition must be the poor themselves – who have the strongest motivation and the greatest stake in the outcome. Systems governments need to be sufficiently decentralised, open and transparent so that they can respond to their priorities. And poor communities need to be able to mobilise and organise themselves to achieve

UNDP has become increasingly involved in anti-poverty programmes. Around 50 per cent of total resources now go to country level programmes that can have a direct impact on poverty – through improved livelihoods, greater gender equality, better natural resource management and governance that is more democratic. UNDP is involved at every level. It supports a broad range of community programmes where the emphasis now is on so-



cial mobilisation – and on helping the poor to build livelihoods that are viable and sustainable. But the UNDP is also involved at the national level assisting, for example, with the preparation of anti-poverty programmes.

Just as important, the organisation is trying to ensure much stronger links between actions at the micro and macro levels. This means not just assuring that macro-policies reduce poverty at the local level but also that micro successes are used as foundation to reform macro policies.

In its environmental programmes, for example, UNDP emphasises that the poor, who

have the most to gain from conserving natural resources, should be supported to become the main stewards of environmental regeneration.

Clarifying how environmental degradation disproportionately affects the poor is, for UNDP, part of much broader effort that includes linking poverty eradication to good governance and equity. Human poverty is the result of a whole set of interesting inequalities – social, political, and economic.

One of the most important of these involves gender. Inequalities between men and women serve to generate and perpetuate poverty both within and between generations. Gender biases need to be removed at every level – from fiscal policy to the sharing the household responsibility – if there is to be any prospect of poverty eradication.

The report argues that the best way to make this happen is to tackle poverty with a broad range of policies. Poverty is not a sectoral issue. It is not a social problem to be addressed as an afterthought. Poverty eradication must, rather, become a central, guiding objective of all development efforts. Fundamentally, poverty is an affront to human rights. Good health, adequate nutrition, literacy and employment are not favours or acts of charity to be bestowed on a poor by governments and international agencies. They are human rights, as valid today as they were 50 years ago when the Universal Declaration on Human Rights was adopted.

The international community, including the UN system, can help fully establish poverty eradication as a priority. And UNDP is striving to play an important role, following the impetus provided by the ongoing UN reforms, to enable the UN system to address poverty in a more coherent and effective way.

(This is an excerpt from the report *Overcoming Human Poverty*. Copies are available from the UN Information Shop)



## Consolidating Notable Findings:

By Jerry van Mourik, Support Officer to the United Nations Resident Coordinator



# United Nations Field Trip

The UN Country Team members traveled together to Khentii aimag last month. For the second time this year, representatives from all UN agencies in Mongolia and some of their colleagues from the Ministries of External Relations, Health & Social Welfare and Finance traveled together, out of the city, to get a feel of what's going on in the country side. The trip triggered great enthusiasm for continuous cooperation and coordination among UN family members.

The UN/Government team visited several

projects and held discussions with local officials, citizens and project staff in several soums, like Tsenkhermandal, Umnudelger, Bayankhutag and the aimag centre. It got updated on community-based approaches to primary education, reproductive health issues and health information services, vulnerable groups organizations' projects, the BAMAKO revolving drug fund initiative and the eastern steppe biodiversity project.

As part of consolidating notable findings and the follow-up, connections are being intensi-

fied through the UN Theme Groups on HIV/AIDS, youth, gender, food security & nutrition, human rights and social statistics.

**UN Pays Tribute to Slain Minister** - The United Nations Country Team expressed deep condolences to the Government and people of Mongolia in connection with the tragic death of Mr. Sanjaasurengiin Zorig, leader of Mongolia's democratic reform process, member of the

*Continued on page 6*

## MONGOLIA UN Thematic Working Groups (updated on 26 October 1998)

Agencies/Groups	Youth	Social Statistics	HIV/AIDS	Gender	Human Rights	Food Security and Nutrition
UNDP	Ms. Pie Meulenkamp	Mr. Bruno Pouezet	Ms. Meulenkamp	Ms. Sarantuya	Mr. Tserendorj	Mr. Batkhuyag
UNICEF	Mr. Girvin Ms. Oyunsaihan	Mr. Tanada	Mr. Girvin	Ms. Uranchimeg (2)	Ms. S. Tuul	Mr. Girvin (3)
WHO	Dr. Reijo Salmelar	Dr. Reijo Salmelar	Dr. De Silva	Ms. Byambaa	Dr. Reijo Salmelar	Mr. Reijo Salmelar
UNFPA	Ms. B. Bayarmaa	Mr. Monwar Islam (1)	Mr. Monwar Islam	Ms. Miga	Ms. B. Bayarmaa Ms. Myaga	Ms. Bayarmaa
UNCHR	Ms. Uyanga	Ms. Uyanga	Ms. Uyanga	Ms. Uyanga	Ms. Uyanga	
UNESCO	Ms. Linken Nymann	Ms. Linken Nymann			Ms. Nymann	
World Bank						Mr. Richard Lynn Ground
IMF						
UNV	Ms. Lynne Nyung Sein			Ms. Lynne Nyung Sein	Ms. Lynne Nyung Sein	

### Email addresses UN Theme Group Members:

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON UNITED NATIONS THEME GROUPS: MR. JERRY VAN MOURIK, UN RESIDENT COORDINATOR SUPPORT OFFICER, [MOURIK@UNDP.ORG.MN](mailto:MOURIK@UNDP.ORG.MN) TELEPHONE: 327585.**



## UN Field Trip

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State Great Hural and Acting Minister of Infrastructure. An official UN message was sent to the State Great Hural and Government of Mongolia. It said that "the United Nations stands prepared to support the Government and people of Mongolia in their endeavors to promote democracy, sound governance and human development – the causes that Mr. S. Zorig so consistently stood for."

**Macro-Economics** – The World Bank joined the recent IMF Mission to Mongolia. The mission observed the macro-economic situation, reviewed both the financial system and the 1998 budget of the Government and looked ahead to 1999. An important overall observation was that the Government is facing tough decisions on prioritizing expenditures.

**Follow-up to UN Conferences Organized** – The Regional Ministerial Consultation in Bangkok, later in November this year, about the follow-up to the UN Summit on Children (New York-1990), is being organized by UNICEF. The Mongolian Government (three ministers to

be confirmed: Health, Education and Justice) will join the UNICEF team to Thailand. There is concern in Mongolia on school dropouts and malnutrition. Upon return the mission will provide feedback for the One World UN Conference Series in Mongolia, enabling the organizers to incorporate the notable Bangkok-findings into the preparations for the first One World on Children, in Ulaanbaatar (20-23 November 1998).



Thousands mourned the death of Mongolia's democracy leader, S. Zorig.

The UN Theme Group on Youth is heavily involved as well. The UN is currently mapping out Mongolia's follow-up to the UN Summits agreements (New York/Children, Vienna/Human Rights, Rio de Janeiro/Environment, Cairo/Population, Beijing/Women and Copenhagen/Social Development and Rome/World Food Summit).

**Support for Poverty Eradication** – The month of October 1998 was again Poverty Eradication Month. The Poverty Eradication Program (PAPO) organized a series of activities, supported by the Government, the United Nations and several NGOs. The United Nations specifically supported public awareness campaigns to the causes of poverty in the country, and called for strong support for people dealing with poverty in their daily lives. Clearly the Poverty Eradication Month interacted with the UN's socio-economic policy exercise. An interesting book on poverty, causes and remedies has been launched and the World Bank published two interesting reports on the current status of the financial sector and the informal sector in Mongolia. Copies of the report can be ordered through the UN Resident Coordinator's Office.

## The Memorandum of Understanding on Youth issues: Empowering Mongolia

By Julie Schneiderman, National Youth Coordinator

Since the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Youth Issues in July 1998, the Government of Mongolia and the UN Agencies have been eager to begin to implement it. Therefore, when I arrived from Vancouver, Canada three weeks ago to assume the position of National Youth Coordinator, there was little time for jet lag. With only six months to achieve my goals and with plenty of work awaiting me, I quickly moved into an office in the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare -Department of Women, Family and Youth Affairs to work under the direction of Mr. Tumurbaatar, Chairman of the Department. Through the assistance of experienced counterparts, including a translator hired to assist with MOU activities, I began setting up meetings with everyone in Ulaanbaatar involved in youth activities related to the MOU. I am thrilled with the positive responses, enthusiasm and strong willingness for cooperation on MOU youth activities from the Mongolian Government, UN Agencies and NGOs.

The MOU on Youth Issues presents so many opportunities to build exciting links between all types of organizations in Mongolia. The recognition and understanding of existing commitments both within the government and the UN System will allow MOU activities to

better address the issues of young people. Essentially, the MOU on Youth Issues serves as a recipe for empowering Mongolian youth, with the success of its implementation based on a colourful blend of ingredients.

The crafters and drafters of the MOU on Youth intended for the document to make a true impact on the lives of youth in Mongolia. Together with my counterparts in the Department of Youth, I am setting up links and building partnerships between youth related organizations and agencies. Our main goal is to bring life to the words of the MOU and to the set of four priorities established by the UN Theme group on Youth and the Government of Mongolia:

- To create a needs assessment analysis of youth with a focus on social statistics;
- To provide youth with a range of capital tools to fight youth poverty and unemployment;
- To provide training tools for youth to improve youth employment opportunities;
- To link with existing reforms in restructuring curriculum and educational materials.

Some initiatives we are currently working on in the Department of Youth - with continual support from the United Nations - include the development of a series of seminars for youth workers from the UN Agencies, NGOs and the



Government. These seminars will aim to create standards on youth programming and publications, generate ideas for fundraising and most importantly to foster a forum for open lines of communication.

We are in the process of establishing a law school curriculum advisory board made up of students and professionals, to assist the efforts of UNCHR (the human rights agency) on the development of new educational materials for law students. Other proposals include the marketing of the UNDP Microcredit projects to youth, through partnerships with the MicroStart Project, its implementing NGOs and youth organizations like the Youth Federation.

All of the UN Agencies are committed to the development of a National Youth Internship Programme, which would provide unemployed and underemployed youth with the opportunity to gain marketable job skills. We have met with UNESCO (culture, education and science) to discuss building upon their non-formal distance education projects and with UNICEF (children) to build a partnership with their projects for youth. UNFPA (reproduc

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## Just around the corner – what do people think about the UN?

On October 20 the Blue Sky Bulletin decided to do an informal survey of people on the street to gauge their attitudes and opinions towards the United Nations. And we thought, "what better place to do this than on the very street that houses two UN offices!"

It seemed like a simple enough yet appealing endeavour to conduct, on a sunny, albeit chilly autumn afternoon - a purely unscientific, coincidental and impromptu poll. Seven men and women were interviewed, with three out of the 14 interviewed claiming to know nothing at all about the UN. One man in his forties said he had just come to Ulaanbaatar from the countryside and had never heard of such an organisation. Nevertheless, here is what the rest of the interviewees had to say:

**Oyun-erdene, (F) 23, student at the Mongolian National University**

"Information in Mongolia about UN activities is lacking and as a result, Mongolians don't know about them. I cannot say what I think about the UN because I don't know much about the workings of this organisation in Mongolia."

**Married couple, Tsetsegmaa, 49, housewife and Dashtsevg, 50, retired army captain**

"We appreciate the activities of the UN because they foster peace throughout the world. UNDP in Mongolia has addressed many important is-



...sues like women's rights, through their projects – in the Gobi, for example, there are communities which benefit from projects based on women-centred activities. There, Mongolian media offers a lot of information on the UN. Mongolia needs UN assistance to counter environmental disasters, such as forest fires."

**Enkhe, (M) 40, translator/interpreter**

"The UN prioritises development issues; it

sponsors several peace-keeping missions the world over; the activities of the UN are administered through its governing bodies like UNESCO and WHO. Here, in Mongolia, the UN is trying to help with building our nation, so that a reasonable standard of living can be achieved for all Mongolians. I don't know about specific projects sponsored by the UNDP in Ulaanbaatar. I suppose there are opposing opinions about the UN- for example, UN peacekeepers using brute force during a period of civil unrest somewhere in Africa. However, I think the UN is more effective compared to its forerunner, the League of Nations in the 1950s."

*Editor's note: The League of Nations followed World War One; the United Nations was formed from the ashes of World War Two.*

**Oyuna (F) 20, student at the Agricultural Institute**

"I don't know much about the UN but I think it has some involvement in the effort to care for the street children of Ulaanbaatar. I think health is an important issue for the UN to tackle in Mongolia."

**Name withheld, late 20s, Buddhist monk**

"The UN is an international organisation which works to promote peace all over the world. The activities of the UNDP have been expanded to cover more of Mongolia ever since the start of the democratic period. Mongolia is a poor country that needs ongoing assistance from the UN."

**Tuushinbileg (F) 17, student at the International Relations Institute**

"The UN is a peace-keeping organisation. Its main functions are to alleviate poverty and unemployment. The UN is affiliated with the Red Cross- they work together to help the hungry and needy. I think UN activities are in big demand all over the world- I would like to see the UN involve more young people in its peace-keeping missions."

**Name withheld (M) mid-30s, construction worker**

"I don't know anything about the UN, except that it is concerned with the protection of human rights."

**Name withheld (F) early 40s, office worker**

"I don't know what the UN is doing in Mongolia. I can tell, through the media that the UN is concerned with the protection of human rights – the humanitarian assistance provided by the UN is very much in demand all over the world."

**Baatar (M) 31, topographic technician**

"UNDP assists poor or developing nations – in Mongolia, it offers financial assistance to the government to carry out various projects. I feel that there is adequate information about the UN in the Mongolian media. I think, as for the projects funded by the UNDP, target groups are not reached- the people who should be helped are not helped and as a result, a lot of money is wasted. Such people don't receive any assistance; it often happens that those mediating on



the behalf of the UNDP benefit the most from the projects."

**Daimaran (M) 68, cigarette vendor**

"The UN provides humanitarian assistance to developing countries- it tries to bring about world unity. It is somehow related to the G-7



nations. In Mongolia, UN activities are based on progressive ideas, unlike those held by the Mongolian Revolutionary Party."

*Research by Karen Fernandez and Ms. Bayarmaa*



## YOUTH ISSUES

Continued from page 7

five health and family planning) has come to visit our office to discuss lending their support for MOU activities. We will work closely with them as well as WHO (health) to compile a comprehensive youth statistics protocol.

Each month, our office will be compiling a calendar of youth activities to send to all youth-related organizations. November 15<sup>th</sup> is our first deadline for submissions for the month of December. We will be contacting you for your input. If your list of youth dates is ready, please hand deliver or fax all submissions to UNDP to my attention, or feel free to come by our offices to visit or pick up a copy of the MOU on Youth in Mongolian or English. Our office is located on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the Youth Federation Building (next to the Technical University and across from Soros), Room #400, Tel: 328852

Cooperation between all organizations and agencies is essential for creating the momentum and energy necessary for the successful follow-up of the MOU on Youth Issues. It is already clear that through the MOU new relationships are developing.



A bounty of new newsletters: The poverty alleviation programme and One World join Blue Sky.



Even Ginger Spice thinks the UN is cool! Former Spice Girl Geri Halliwell is now UNFPA's goodwill ambassador.

## One world

Continued from page 1

the Mongolian language.

On October 8 One World youth volunteers met in the capital Ulaanbaatar to prep for the conferences. There was a poster contest, a disco and information sessions. Over 150 youth heard from UNICEF Information Officer Yuichi Tanada and UN Support Officer to the Resident Coordinator, Jerry van Mourik.

The first conference on children will kick-off on November 20 at the Nairamdel Children's Camp. One world is being supported by the UN Resident Coordinator's Office with assistance from the private sector and donors.

### How to maximise One World

For UN programme and project staff, the conferences offer a significant boost to our work. Not only are they a forum for dissemination of information on our work in Mongolia – and more importantly a means to expand the educative reach of the UN - you can also:

- meet with the youth to develop contacts for future work;
- ask the youth to help with dissemination of public education materials (ie: health booklets, newsletters, etc.) to remote areas of the country;
- encourage youth to work with NGOs that

### Conference Schedule:

Children – November 20 to 23  
Human Rights – December 7 to 10  
Population and Development – January, 1999  
Social Development – February, 1999  
Women and Development – April, 1999  
National Summit – May, 1999

work with the UN;

### How to contact One World:

One World has a fact-packed homepage in English and Mongolian located at the UN Homepage <http://www.un-mongolia.mn>. Emails can be sent to [OneWorld@magicnet.mn](mailto:OneWorld@magicnet.mn).

Newsletter "Neg Ertonts" or One World.

The conference series is being organised by Women for Social Progress and the contacts are:

One World Coordinators: Susan Boedy (she speaks Mongolian!) or R. Burmaa

Address: National History Museum  
Room #04  
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## Does Mongolia face corruption?

By Maralgoo, BskyB Reporter

The process of democracy that started in 1989-1990 has developed valuable things of human rights, freedom and market economy. And these tremendous changes mark a key point in the history of Mongolia. For our country that has for so long been isolated, democracy brought us new things and the free flow of information. The new freedoms have also brought their bad side, with increases in criminal activity. This tendency has happened in every transition country, and can cause social, economic, and political crisis that can lead to corruption. Even though everybody talks about corruption, it is harder to pin down what it is. On April, 1997 hunger-strikers were against the activities connected to corruption of the opposition and the democrats, and those demonstrations have become a clarion call for people on this issue. Even though there is no proof that high government officials are corrupt, it is an issue that has become paramount in the political debate, and is playing its role in the current political paralysis.

Tsolmon's famous debt case, the court procedure of five bank officers, the gold dealer case, illegal transfer of Nalaih army weapons across the border, the incident of 17 containers of al-

cohol, the problems concerning Erdenet copper mining company - all these frightened society, but the real people are still hiding behind the curtains. For a country like Mongolia with few mechanisms to tackle this problem, corruption can cause enormous difficulties for economic reforms.

Is it true our lives have become smeared with corruption, causing social crisis, making people more anxious and an unstable society? Even though we are criticizing somebody being corrupted, can we turn back the "payoff gift" which was given by others? We are citizens and belong to one country. Therefore, it is the time for everybody, starting from ordinary people to civil servants, to stand against corruption.

It is necessary for us to develop the national program against corruption.

Although, Konrad Adenauer foundation conducted a survey on corruption in four aimags in 1994, it was not sufficient to look at overall picture throughout the country. In order to avoid expected danger of corruption, the government of Mongolia asked UNDP for assistance in solving the problem, and accordingly, several specialists are working on the problem. Therefore, the Government of Mongolia together with UNDP is working on developing and implementing an anti corruption project. It's neces-

sary to reflect activities that would eliminate people's misunderstanding over the causes of corruption and how it can exasperate the poverty situation.

It is necessary to strengthen corruption-related legislation. There is no single person that has been prosecuted for corruption due to weak laws and regulations on corruption. The law should be used against those involved in corruption; that civil servants must follow the law otherwise face serious consequences for their actions. Corruption exists in every country and they should take actions to prevent corruption. In 1999, UNDP is planning to send a study group to Hong Kong and Singapore to conduct survey on corruption.

It is important that the Government has the policy that would focus not on just one group of people, but all people standing against corruption and cooperate with the country that have experience dealing with corruption.

There is no country without corruption. But it's rare countries that have been corrupted fully like Nigeria. Corruption simply became a part of every day life, the legislation no longer can deal with it, and the national crisis became more severe.

Mongolia is not experiencing the same as Nigeria, yet. If there are no immediate actions against corruption, Mongolia may become Asian Nigeria.

Do you really want to see your country fallen in such situation?

## Latest news from UN Mongolia website.

The UN Mongolia website is enriching its content day by day. Most of the visitors are coming from USA, Japan, Australia, Finland and of course Mongolia. The top day with 52 visitors was on 6 October, 1998. Since April 1998 the total number of pageviews reached 4,307 visitors. We are receiving email from Web site visitors throughout the world and have greatly ex-

panded the distribution of our publications. More and more people are starting to use it on the Web.

We are also an award-winning site. Recently our online magazine "Ger" was voted by Starting Point users to be a "Hot Site". Starting Point is a web site that allows you to search the Internet.

Our site has also been listed on the People's Choice WebSite 500 and awarded CyberTeddy's Top 500 WebSite award. Happy Browsing!

## Food Security and Nutrition

*Continued from page 1*

memorandum. The MOU is a confirmation by these agencies and the Government to work together on this issue. The UN has already signed an MOU on Youth with the Government and will soon sign one on human rights. All three are priority areas for the Government.

Ajmal Qureshi, the FAO's Beijing-based representative for China, DPR Korea and Mongolia, noted that food security was an important issue to Mongolia, however its population was small.

He is confident the Government would manage any future hardships due to poor environmental conditions. "It is a very temporary problem," said Qureshi. "The situation is still pragmatic and inflation is under control." FAO is supporting food security and nutrition issues through its medium- and long-term projects on germplasms, food security, etc. He also pointed out the importance of animal production and the genetic quality of livestock. As well, he thinks the fishery can be a very successful industry in the country. He could not say what funds would be available in the future, and that the Asian financial crisis means other countries in the region are in need of support. It seems Mongolia will need to rely on some food imports, especially flour, he said. But the Government is still hoping that the country may recover by itself, harvesting the grain under the snow.



## Internet Summit: Gathering on the cyber steppes

Work is underway on organising an Internet Summit for Mongolia. The Summit will promote the opportunities offered by information and communication technologies in Mongolia. The Summit will be a first for Mongolia, as a publicly accessible event. It is hoped the Summit will share lessons from other developing countries, discuss possibilities for Mongolian enterprises and individuals and analyse Mongolian successes to date. It is hoped an ICT blueprint will chart the course for future developments in Mongolia. From November 17 to 21 a workshop will lay the groundwork for the Summit. The ICT Summit is being sponsored by UNDP and the Soros Foundation, with assistance from Mongolian companies (Datacom, Bodi, MTC and MTU). For further information please contact Atsushi Yamanaka, Information and Communication Technology Officer, UNDP.



# Tackling corruption: A plan of action

## Excerpted from a report by

**Dr. Jon S.T. Quah**, Professor of Political Science, Department of Political Science, National University of Singapore (this story has been submitted by the Governance Programme and edited for the Blue Sky Bulletin)

Arising from my participation in the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Regional Workshop on Integrity in Governance in Asia in Bangkok from 29 June to 1 July 1998, and my experience in conducting research on corruption in Asian countries, particularly in Singapore, Hong Kong and the ASEAN countries, I was invited by UNDP's Programme for Accountability and Transparency (PACT) in New York to undertake a mission in Mongolia with the twofold aim of reviewing the current mechanisms for controlling corruption and recommending the national anti-corruption plan (NACP) for the Mongolian government.

During my first visit to Ulaanbaatar from 7-11 September 1998, I met Members of Parliament (MPs), senior officials from several agencies and mass media representatives. My second visit to Ulaanbaatar during 16-23 October gave me a chance to get a feedback on this preliminary report and finalise the NACP.

## The National Anti-Corruption Plan

The proposed NACP consists of four related components: the national survey on the extent of corruption; the improvement of the implementation of existing laws, especially the LAC and the Criminal Code; a study tour of Singapore and Hong Kong to observe the operations of the CPIB and ICAC and the implementation of the POCA and POBO respectively with the aim of ascertaining the suitability of an independent ACA for Mongolia; and finally, convening a national workshop for senior Mongolian public officials, MPs, and other interested groups like mass media representatives and leaders of non-governmental organizations.

## National Survey on the Extent of Corruption

As there is lack of relevant information on the extent of corruption in Mongolia, it is necessary for the government to conduct a nationwide survey to ascertain this. The Konrad Adenauer and the Mongolian Academy of Sciences conducted a poll on the public's views toward corruption in four provinces and published the results in the Mongolian press in August 1994. While this earlier poll provided useful information, its limited coverage of four provinces meant that the findings could not be applied to the other 14 provinces. The proposed national survey on corruption in Mongolia should be based on a larger and more representative sample of citizens in the 18 provinces. The key activities like the drawing of the random sample of citizens, the preparation of the questionnaire, and the training of the interviewers should be completed during the winter

months of January to March 1999, so that interviews can be conducted during April 1999. Allowing one month for data analysis, the findings of the national survey could be presented at a national seminar for those policy-makers involved in the implementation of the anti-corruption measures in Mongolia in June 1999.

## Improving the Implementation of Laws

As it will be expensive and politically not feasible for the Mongolian government to raise the low salaries of civil servants without substantial economic growth, a more realistic strategy would be to improve the effectiveness of the existing anti-corruption measures by ensuring the implementation and enforcement of laws. In fact, this was what the People's Action Party (PAP) government of Singapore did

In Mongolia, the problem of corruption has still not reached the epidemic proportions of Nigerian corruption. Whether Mongolia can avoid the same route taken by Nigeria depends mainly on the commitment of its political leaders and population in the fight against corruption.

in 1960, when it implemented its comprehensive anti-corruption strategy by strengthening the existing legislation. Salaries of civil servants were only increased from 1972 after the achievement of rapid economic growth (Quah, 1995: 398).

During my interview with Mrs C. Otgonbayar, MP and Chairperson, Standing Committee on Legal Affairs on September 8, 1998, she informed me that a working group had been formed to examine the implementation of the LAC. The report of this working group will be useful in terms of providing feedback on why after two and a half years of its introduction, no one has been prosecuted for corruption or for failing to submit or monitor an income and assets declaration yet.

It is interesting to note here that in her analysis of Mongolia's legal framework, Stephanie McPhail (1995: 22-23) observed that Mongolian laws were not only brief but also tend to be general, descriptive and vague. For example, no ministry is ever designated in a law as being responsible for that law's implementation. Many laws refer to institutions without setting them up. The senior policy-makers attending the seminar should bear this criticism of Mongolian laws in mind with the aim of introducing amendments to the existing anti-corruption legislation to enhance their implementation and effectiveness.

## National Workshop on Corruption

This national workshop should be held after the completion of the national survey on corruption and the June 1999 national seminar to discuss its findings, the seminar for senior

policy-makers to discuss the report of the working group on the implementation of the LAC, and the week-long study tour to Singapore and Hong Kong in July 1999. This means that the national workshop can be held in Ulaanbaatar in August or September 1999.

As the purpose of this national workshop is to discuss the desirability and feasibility of a comprehensive anti-corruption strategy for Mongolia, it is necessary to involve all the relevant policy-makers and key representatives of the academic community, the business community, the mass media, and the non-governmental organizations. More specifically, the findings of the national survey, the report of the working group, and the report of the study tour of Singapore and Hong Kong should be presented and discussed at the national workshop.

The GIPPAG should be responsible for organizing the national workshop on corruption with the assistance of the UNDP office in Ulaanbaatar, PACT, and if necessary, TI. The papers presented at the national workshop and the discussions can be published and its policy recommendations submitted to the Mongolian government for consideration.

## Conclusion

In his critical analysis of Nigeria's problems, Babatunde Oyinade (1998: 21) attributed the persistence of these problems to corruption, which has reached an uncontrollable level as it has been institutionalized in the government and private sector. He wrote:

There is corruption in every society, but the problem of corruption is so pervasive in Nigeria that there is difficulty in knowing precisely how to address the issue. ... in Nigeria the problems exist because of the inability of the government to investigate and bring to justice anyone considered guilty. Most government agencies have become business centers where corruption is so rampant that legitimate work cannot be accomplished without paying off someone. No one is exempt, not the military, the civil servants, the business elites, the politicians, or society at large. Everyone does it. It is part and parcel of daily life in Nigeria. Unless Nigerians cease to justify corruption as normal, efforts to eradicate it will fail. Poverty remains the vehicle for corruption.

In Mongolia, the problem of corruption has still not reached the epidemic proportions of Nigerian corruption. Whether Mongolia can avoid the same route taken by Nigeria depends mainly on the commitment of its political leaders and population in the fight against corruption.

There is hope if they are willing to pay the price required for minimizing corruption by implementing a comprehensive strategy which reduces both the incentives and opportunities for corruption. However, if such political will is lacking it will be quite difficult to prevent corruption from gradually becoming a way of life in Mongolia in the future.



## Time management tips for dedicated people with demanding schedules

By Fred Pentney

### Stage one: Developing business persona, efficient work environment and effective thinking strategies

- Time management is not an occasional seminar – it is a continuous process which requires self-discipline to maintain
- The process also requires a self-improvement attitude, specific knowledge, tools and resources
- Take an inventory. Do you review your personal performance, use a planner, have “quick find” filing?
- Change habits by practicing, e.g. saying “no”, until you get caught up and can plan ahead.
- Set specific time aside weekly to acquire and use the tools and develop the resources – the return on your “time investment” will gradually compound into time that generates income.

### Stage two: Select and finish a few key projects, don't overload, stay focused.

- If you have multiple priorities, work in hour “chunks” in each area. Then repeat on key items
- Use technology to leverage your time, but, spend hobby or personal time researching and learning the technology. Avoid using project time to learn software – take courses whenever possible.
- Make list of your personal time wasters – write them down as they occur, review them, and rectify.
- Develop a comprehensive, ongoing data base – write or use computer. Post every week while information is fresh.
- Schedule fitness time no matter how busy you get. 45 minute work-

outs, 2-3 times a week.

- If you make commitments to people – keep them, or communicate the exchanges early, never late.

### Stage three : Be professional in all things, use ethics, give value, keep learning and stretching.

- The stage three development areas will all have a positive impact on your time if entrenched as habits.
- Have fingertip control of all your data, files, contacts, projects. Use file folders and electronic aids.
- Spend 15-30 minutes a day planning daily and long range activities. Involve others in the execution.
- Take time out to stay balanced: family, social, and recreational activities make the business effort worth while. A rich life comes from more than just money. Being able to give back is a value-added benchmark.

### Overview: If you develop connectivity between all the above your system will be easier to maintain

- Recognise that all of the above are “tips” of the iceberg. There is considerable amount of work necessary on each of the items. The benefits of maintaining the effort are: you develop a high level of professional accomplishment, you are in control and cope well under stress and consistently achieve worthwhile goals.

Many thanks to Fred Pentney for allowing us to reprint these tips

### Cut and keep page

## UN Homepage: Making the most of electronic publishing



By Bayasgalan, UN Webmaster

The Web has been called the most important business and sales tool of the 1990s. Despite some over-inflated promotion by some companies, the World Wide Web continues to amaze even the most pessimistic observers. Although traditional media – radio and TV broadcasts, printed books, magazines, and newspapers – will continue to be important to our lives, more and more of our friends and associates will receive information from the World Wide Web. For development workers the World Wide Web is becoming an invaluable tool. In Mongolia there are now over 100 homepages and over 2,000 Internet users. There are over ten public access Internet centres (five in the capital, five outside). Despite these impressive accomplishments, for many that don't have their own access to the Internet, it can be difficult to see its relevance to every day life. For those with Internet, its use in Mongolia has its own frustrations and disappointments. A common scenario is the frustrated surfer who spends half an hour trying to log on to the Internet during the business day, only to be kicked off five minutes later while downloading their favour-

ite page. But despite this drawback, the Internet offers an unparalleled range of information not found in libraries or archives in this country.

The following are tips that might help hesitant Internet users in the UN. Keep in mind that the UN's own homepage is for the use of all UN programmes and projects, so don't be shy!

There are several reasons for using the Web:

#### - Immediacy

The web makes it easy to get your message out as quickly as possible. After you have added, deleted, or updated the information at your website, it takes just seconds to post your website. Often by the time the newsletter or direct mailer arrives in somebody's mailbox, the information is out of date.

For example, when your boss or a member of the media calls and wants to know what you have done, instead of stopping work and preparing a presentation kit for him/her and sending it via overnight express service or email attachment (which sometimes fails to reaching the intended receiver), you can simply refer them to the website (in our case it is <http://www.un-mongolia.mn>).

People interested in your activities can quickly order publications online or download the agendas of your seminars. Many of our donor partners have commented on the benefits of being able to quickly review the UN's activities in Mongolia – and developments in the country.

#### - Volume of information

The web permits you to communicate as much information as you need to achieve your goals. On the web, costs do not increase as the amount of information you communicate increases. This is in direct contrast to print publishing where printing costs increase proportionately to the amount of information. The homepage becomes a valuable electronic archive of your activities and storehouse for information. At UNDP this homepage has been incorporated into what is called an office Intranet, similar to the Internet but only available for UNDP staff. The one proviso is this: organize the information and prioritise. There is nothing worse than a homepage that immediately overloads a user with lengthy reports.

#### - Personalised information

The web is an interactive medium, which means that visitors to your website can concentrate on just those topics of interest to them. The web permits you to offer something for every visitor.

What are our visitors saying?

*“My school and other schools in the state of Missouri are in a group called Model UN. It is run by one of the colleges in Missouri, and our purpose is to find out information on countries in the United Nations and then we go to a set up debate that is somewhat the same as the real United Nations meetings). Anyway, I was just writing to tell you that I think your site was very helpful in giving information that*

Continued on page 12



## Internet

Continued from page 11

helps us know more about what you do in the UN. Thank you for your time (sic)." Erin Link, USA

"I would be grateful for introductions to Mongolian companies or other organizations in-

terested in promoting economic development in Mongolia", Prof. R.E. Shaw, Italy.

"I visited in your homepage and it was valuable site for people who is accessing outside of Mongolia. I am appreciated that a lot of work done by UNDP in Mongolia (sic)," Baatar, Fellow in Medical Informatics, Harvard

"I was very disappointed to find your "up-to-date" information on the economy a year old. Still, I find your site very interesting and hope to find some more "up-to-date's" in the near future," Oyu Ochirbal-Bravenec, MBA student at the US Business School in Prague.

"I found this Mongolian AIDS Bulletin and was quite surprised. I was born in Mongolia and by coincidence I have now a company that develops affordable AIDS drugs for the third world. Is there a way to help? How many AIDS cases are there?," Bourinbaier Aldar, private business, USA.

- **Color and Photography**

Print color is notoriously expensive. The Web, however, doesn't care about color. It costs no more to publish a color photograph on the Web than a black-and-white one.

- **Low cost.**

Web publishing is inexpensive. Therefore it allows small businesses to compete with large businesses and produce Web sites that are as attractive and meaningful as firms with huge advertising budgets. The burden is on you, however, to determine your message, provide the information your market desires, and present it as attractively as possible.

So never underestimate the power of the Web. If you have a business and want it to grow to its fullest and most profitable potential, the Web is the way to go. The Web is here to stay, and whether your primary market is across the town or across the country – or even overseas, you can and should be using the Web. The Soros Foundation in Ulaanbaatar has now an Open Web Centre for the general public. They can provide advice and support on creating homepages.

## Upcoming events

### Governance and Economic Transition

1. MON/95/101 Workshop on Quality insurance Mechanism for Management Training Programmes beginning of Dec'98
2. Mon/97/123 National Summit on Press Law, December
3. Mon/97/122 beginning December, National Summit on Information and Communication Technology
4. Dundgovi, Hovd, Huvsgul Citizen Information Service Centre will open in December

### Resident Coordinator's Office

#### One World UN Conference Series


- October 24-25 1998, Training of Facilitators
- Oct 31- 1-1998, Nov Aimag Committee Coordinators
- November 2—23, 1998, Children's Conference
- December 7-10, 1998, Human Rights
- January 20-23 1999, Population & Development
- February 26-28 1999, Social Development
- May 14-17 1999, National Summit

### Environment

1. Organisation of a regional workshop on implementation of the AAPs and MAP 21 in Tuv aimag, 10 November
2. Organisation of a regional workshop on implementation of the APPs and MAP 21 in Arkhangai, 20 November
3. Organisation of a consultation among women NGOs and government officials on national programme of action for the advancement of women, 15 November
4. Organisation of a seminar on project preparation, end of November

## Arrivals and Departures

Ms. Beatriz Chua and Mr. Kwangkoo Choi, UNV Programme Officers, have concluded their contracts and returned home; Ms. Lynne Nyunt Sein from Myanmar is the new UNV Programme Officer; Ravi Bagshi, an Indian UNV will work as a Human Development Research Specialist on the 1999 Mongolian Human Development Report; Maya Totorova, an English teacher will return to her native Bulgaria; Jajdish Yadav, an Indian UNV will work with UNFPA on population development strategies; National UNV Coordinator Enkhbayar will work in the PAPO office; UNDP M. Enkhsetseg, UNDP Programme Assistant in the Programme Support Unit will take up a posting as a UNV in Tajikistan, with temporary posting in Uzbekistan, until things quiet down in the troubled Central Asian nation.



Нэгдсэн Үндэстний Байгууллагын United Nations Mongolia  
Мэдээллийн төв Info Shop

## List of new publications and reports

**In English**

1. **Overcoming Human Poverty.** A comprehensive survey of global poverty based on human development reports since 1990, UNDP, 1998
2. **The Art Yearbook 1998.** Asia-Pacific Tele-community
3. **Empowering People: Guide to Participation.** UNDP, 1998
4. **Country Economic Review: Mongolia.** ADB, 1998
5. **Trade and Development Report.** UNCTAD, 1998
6. **Foreign Direct Investment, Trade, Aid and Migration.** UNCTAD/ IOM, 1996
7. **Renewable Energy for Mongolia.** Proposal made to UNDP, 1998
8. **Development Aid: What the Public Thinks.** 1998
9. **Lake Hovsgol National Park: A Visitor's Guide.** Discovery Initiatives, UK/ UNDP Biodiversity Project, 1998

**In Mongolian**

10. **About HIV/AIDS/STDs: The Handbook.** UNAIDS (UN Programme on HIV/AIDS/STDs), 1998
11. Таны мэдвэл зохих зүйлүүд ХВ болон ДОХ-ын талаар. НҮБ-ын ДОХ-той тэмцэх нэгдсэн хөтөлбөр
12. **The Green Book: An Environmental Awareness Handbook.** A joint publication of EPAP, the UNDP Communications Office, TACIS and the Ministry of Nature and Environment, October 1998

We accept letters! All letters should be no more than 200 words in length. News briefs should be a maximum of 100 words each. Field reports should not exceed 350 words. The Blue Sky Bulletin is a publication of the United Nations Development Programme in Mongolia. The newsletter is published every month. The next deadline for submissions is September 20.

**Subscriptions to the newsletter are free! We can send the newsletter to you electronically, via e-mail, or by post. Just send us your address and how you would like to receive the newsletter and we will rush it out straight away.**

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